The steps taken by the CIL to supply superior quality of coal to power, steel, cement, railways and defence sectors are as under :

(i) Careful segregation of shales and stones from coal, sizing/crushing of coal and elimination of stone boulder at the time of sizing/crushing.

(ii) Revision of grades of coal on the basis of extensive sampling/analysis.

(iii) Posting of Quality Control Officer or siding-in-charge in each colliery to supervise proper loading.

(iv) Regular sampling analysis at loading points through public analysis or third party agencies.

STATEMENT

Percentage of increase in the prices of coking coal, semi-Coking coal and A,B and C grades of non-coking coal effected on 20.10.96 by Coal India Limited over the prices of these grades of coal fixed on 1.4.96.

Category	Grade	For CCL, SECL ECL (Raniganj) and SP mines only for ECL)	For BCCL MCL, ECL (Mugma and Salanpur Area only)	For MCL	For WCL
1	2	3	4	5	6
Non-coking	A	12.06%	12.06%	12.04%	-
	B	12.14%	12.14%	12.07%	-
	C	8.14%	8.14%	8.14%	-
Coking Coal					
	Steel Grade-I	-	12.06%	-	-
	Steel Grade-II	-	12.07%	-	-
	Washery Grade-I	8.02%	12.03%	-	8.02%
	Washery Grade-II	8.03%	12.10%	-	8.03%
	Washery Grade-III	8.10%	12.07%	-	-
	Washery Grade-IV	8.15%	12.04%	-	-
Semi-Coking					
	Grade-I	8.02%	8.02%	8.02%	8.02%
	Grade-II	8.03%	8.03%	8.03%	8.03%

Note : CIL : Coal India Limited.
CCL : Central Coalfields Limited
SECL : South Eastern Coalfields Limited
ECL : Eastern Coalfields Limited
BCCL : Bharat Coking Coal Limited
NCL : Northern Coalfields Limited
MCL : Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
WCL : Western Coalfields Limited

[English]

Shortage of Raw Jute

460. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to acute shortage of Raw Jute and the decline in the prices of produced goods, many jute factories are on the verge of closure or thinking of closing of their shifts till the new arrivals of raw jute; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the closure of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b). At present sufficient quantities of raw Jute are available at reasonable prices. All mills out of 73 units in the country except three mills one in U.P. one in Bihar and one in West Bengal are presently functioning normally. The mill at U.P. and the mill at Bihar are lying closed for more than ten years. The

work of the Mill at West Bengal has been affected by work suspension from 14.11.1996 however, Government of West Bengal has already started conciliation proceedings for reopening of this unit and it may resume production shortly.

[Translation]

Joint Venture with Germany

461 KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an Indo-German Joint Venture garment industry in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is expected in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Investment in Bihar from Bank Deposit

462 SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount deposited by the persons in the banks in Bihar and other States and the amount invested therefrom in these States during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the requisite percentage of amount in those States and the steps being taken to improve it;

(c) the per-capita amount of bank loan disbursed in Bihar and other States during the above period and the reasons for its low disbursal;

(d) whether the Government are aware that due to the shortage of banks in the remote areas of Bihar the State has been becoming more and more backward; and

(e) the steps taken to improve the situation in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Balance of Trade

463 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the import and export made during 1996 till date;

(b) the present position of foreign trade of India and the steps being taken by the Government for maintaining balance between import and export; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen export and reduce the import of the country and also to strengthen the commercial ties with various bordering countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). As per latest available DGCI & S data, India's exports during April-Sept. 96 are valued at US $ 16.14 billion and imports are valued at US $ 17.95 billion.

Export during April-Sept. 1996 have grown by 9.9% over the levels of the corresponding period of the last year. The imports during April-Sept., 1996 have increased by 5.2% over the level of the corresponding period last year.

The balance of trade represented by the excess of exports over the imports for April-Sept. 1996 is placed at US $ - 1.81 billion.

(c) The key to narrowing the trade deficit lies in increasing the level of exports. Export promotion is a continuous activity and steps are being taken from time to time in consultation with trade and industry.

Commercial ties with various bordering countries are reviewed from time to time through bilateral discussions, exchange of industry and trade delegations as well as trade agreements. Bilateral trade with neighbouring countries is reviewed periodically under the institutional provisions in the bilateral trade agreements (except in the case of Pakistan). Trade promotion measures are also taken at the SAARC forum. A SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangements (SAPTA) providing for tariff preferences on in intra-regional trade on many items has become operational in December 1995.

[English]

Bank Loans in West Bengal

464 SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan disbursed under each category by the various banks located in West Bengal during the last three years and in the current year so far; and

(b) the percentage of such loans in comparison to the total deposits in banks during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The outstanding advances of banks in West Bengal in different category during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto September 30, 1996) and also the percentage of such advances to total deposit as furnished by United Bank of India, the Convenor Bank for State Level